Exploration of oil in coastal Orissa

3206. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whejber it is a fact that ONGC and OIL have major off-shore oil banks of the Orissa coast which happens to be on the very path traversed by millions of Olive Ridlcys for decades every year to come to Gahirmatha and lay eggs;

(b) whether it is a fact that NGOs involved in nature conservation have already written to his Ministry explaining the delicate nature of the predicament; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No reserves of hydrocarbons have been established as yet in Mahanadi basin, both in the onshore and offshore areas. However, in the last two years six blocks have been awarded to various public sector and private sector oil companies in the offshore and onshore areas of Mahanadi basin under New Exploration Licensing Polic).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Profit on sale of petroleum products

3207. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) .the details of the petroleum products gained (domestic *&*. imports separately) and sold during the last three years;

(b) the details of the turnover, profit incurred by Government during the above period alongwith the details of the allocation of profits;

(c) whether Government have noticed any decline in the consumption of these products during the last year; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) As per available information details of petroleum products available (domestic & imports) and sold during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2060-2001 arc given in the Statcmcnt-I. *(See* below)

(b) Details of turnover, profit during the same period*are given in the Statement-II. (See below) *

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Details of petroleum products available (domestic and imports) and sold during 1996 to 2001

(Fig. In MMT)

Year	Indigenous	Imported	Sold
1998-1999	68.409	23.771	90.562
1999-2000	82.936	16.608	97.086
2000-2001	99.578	9.267	100.075
TOTAL:	250.923	49.646	287.723

Note: Figures include production (ex-refincrics) and factionators. Above figures include data regarding imports by private refineries based on industry assessment.

Statement-II

Details of turnover, profit earned by Government on sale of petroleum products

(Rs. Crore)

Year	Turnover	Profit
1998-1999	126744.31	3851.74
1999-2000	171061.62	4245.98
2000-2001	215748.22	4682.35
TOTAL	513554.15	12780.07

Mathura Refinery

3208. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in "The Indian Express" dated 6th March, 2002 under the heading "Sulphur decreased as fuel leaves Mathura Refinery"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto and what corrective steps have been taken or Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Indian Oil Corporation Limited the sulphur values reported at Mathura refinery and Bijwasan terminal arc within reproducible limits, compared to the standards internationally prescribed by organisations like Institute of Petroleum U.K. and American Society for Testing and Materials.